

# Module 8: Other Activities

# Module Objectives

**After this module, you should be able to:**

- Describe some of the key features of TRICARE Plus
- Describe the ECHO benefit and who is eligible for it
- Describe the CAP Program
- Describe the US Family Health Plan



# TRICARE Plus

- TRICARE Plus is a program that allows beneficiaries who normally are only able to get care at a military treatment facility (MTF) on a space-available basis to enroll and receive primary care appointments at the MTF within the same primary care access standards as beneficiaries enrolled in a TRICARE Prime option
  - TRICARE Plus is not a health plan, it is simply a way to access primary care at MTFs
- TRICARE Plus is only available at certain MTFs, and the local MTF commander may limit enrollment to specific categories of beneficiaries
- TRICARE beneficiaries enrolled in a Prime option (*overseas or stateside*), a civilian HMO, or Medicare HMO are not eligible to enroll in TRICARE Plus
- TRICARE Plus is not a portable benefit, meaning that enrollment into TRICARE Plus at one MTF does not automatically extend enrollment to another MTF



# TRICARE Plus

## Eligibility

- TRICARE Standard beneficiaries
- Retirees and retiree family members using TRICARE For Life

## Coverage

- Beneficiaries should contact their local military treatment facility to find out if they may participate in TRICARE Plus
- If available, the beneficiary's enrollment in TRICARE Plus will be reflected in DEERS
- TRICARE Plus does not guarantee access to specialty care at the MTF
  - If referral to civilian care outside of the MTF is required, TRICARE Standard rules will apply
- There are no out of pocket costs for enrollment in TRICARE Plus



# Extended Care Health Option Program

- The Extended Care Health Option (ECHO) is a supplemental program to the basic TRICARE program
- ECHO provides financial assistance for an integrated set of services and supplies to eligible active duty family members (including family members of activated National Guard or Reserve members)
- Extended Care Health Option (ECHO) benefits may include:
  - Medical and rehabilitative services
  - Training to use assistive technology devices
  - Special education
  - Institutional care when a residential environment is required
  - Transportation to receive authorized ECHO benefits under certain circumstances
  - Assistive services, such as those from a qualified interpreter or translator
  - Durable equipment, including adaptation and maintenance
  - In-home medical services through ECHO Home Health Care (EHHC) \_
  - In-home respite care services



# Extended Care Health Option Program

## Eligibility

- TRICARE ECHO provides financial assistance **only** for active duty family members with specific qualifying mental or physical conditions, including:
  - Diagnosis of a neuromuscular developmental condition or other condition in an infant or toddler expected to precede a diagnosis of moderate or severe mental retardation or serious physical disability
  - Extraordinary physical or psychological condition causing the beneficiary to be homebound
  - Moderate or severe mental retardation
  - Multiple disabilities (may qualify if there are two or more disabilities affecting separate body systems)
  - Serious physical disability
- Eligible beneficiaries must be enrolled in the Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP)
- Each service branch has its own EFMP and enrollment process
  - Under certain circumstances, this requirement may be waived
- If a sponsor believes a qualifying condition exists, they should call their regional contractor to determine eligibility
- If overseas, beneficiaries should contact their MTF or TRICARE Area Office



# Extended Care Health Option Program

ECHO services persons with the following qualifying conditions:

- Moderate or severe mental retardation
- A serious physical disability
- An extraordinary physical or psychological condition of such complexity that the beneficiary is homebound
- A diagnosis of a neuromuscular developmental condition or other condition in an infant or toddler that is expected to precede a diagnosis of moderate or severe mental retardation or a serious physical disability
- Multiple disabilities, which may qualify if there are two or more disabilities affecting separate body systems

**Note:** If a beneficiary is determined not to be eligible for the ECHO, the decision is regarded as a factual statement and is not appealable.



# ECHO Cost Shares

- Sponsors must pay part of the monthly expenses for authorized Extended Care Health Option benefits. The monthly cost share is based on the sponsor's pay grade as shown in the chart below.
- The monthly cost share is only one fee per sponsor, not per ECHO beneficiary. ECHO beneficiaries only pay the cost share if they use ECHO benefits during that calendar month.

<b>Sponsor Pay Grade</b>	<b>Sponsor Cost Share Amount</b>
E-1 to E-5	\$25
E-6	\$30
E-7, O-1	\$35
E-8, O-2	\$40
E-9, WO/W-1 , CWO-2 and O-3	\$45
CWO-3, CWO-4, O-4	\$50
CWO-5, O-5	\$65
O-6	\$75
O-7	\$100
O-8	\$150
O-9	\$200
O-10	\$250

# Computer/Electronic Accommodations Program (CAP)

- The Computer/Electronic Accommodations Program (CAP) provides assistive technology and services to people with disabilities, Federal managers, supervisors, and IT professionals
- CAP increases access to information and works to remove barriers to employment opportunities by eliminating the costs of assistive technology and accommodation solutions
- CAP's mission is to ensure that people with disabilities have equal access to information, environment, and opportunity in the DoD and throughout the Federal government
- Congress granted CAP the authority to provide assistive technology, devices, and services free of charge to Federal agencies that have a partnership agreement with CAP
- The TRICARE Management Activity, a field activity in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs), serves as the executive agent for CAP



# Computer/Electronic Accommodations Program (CAP)

## Eligibility:

- Federal employees with disabilities
- Wounded service members
- Federal managers, supervisors, and IT professional

If a person has a disability and is employed by a component of the Department of Defense (DoD), or one of the federal agencies that has a partnership with CAP, they are eligible for CAP services.

## CAP provides:

- Assistive technology to increase access to the computer and telecommunications environment
- Individualized needs assessments
- Demonstration and evaluation of assistive technology
- Installation, integration and training
- Disability education and awareness
- Section 508 training

To learn more about CAP, visit [www.tricare.mil/cap](http://www.tricare.mil/cap)



# Uniformed Services Family Health Plan (USFHP)

US Family Health Plan is a TRICARE option. The US Family Health Plan was selected by the Department of Defense to be a provider of TRICARE Prime.

US Family Health Plan members receive all the benefits offered by the DoD's

TRICARE Prime program, plus additional advantages and features at no extra cost.

US Family Health Plan has served the health care needs of military beneficiaries since 1993, under an earlier contract with the DoD.

When TRICARE, was implemented, the DoD contracted with certain former US Public Health Service hospitals to be TRICARE Prime designated providers through the administration of US Family Health Plan programs.



# Uniformed Services Family Health Plan (USFHP)

Beneficiaries must be enrolled in the Defense Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) and live within USFHP service area as determined by zip code.

## **Eligibility:**

- Certain former active duty service members, including Guard/Reserve and their family members during the Transitional Assistance Management Program (TAMP) period
- Active duty family member spouses
- Active duty family member unmarried dependent children until age 21 or 23 if enrolled in school full-time
- U.S. uniformed services retirees
- U.S. uniformed services retiree family members, including un-remarried Survivors
- Eligible un-remarried former spouses of active duty or retired service members

## **Enrollment:**

- **Open year round**
- Eligible beneficiaries must complete a DD Form 2876 to enroll
- Coverage begins on the first day of the month following receipt of the application
- There are no enrollment fees for active duty family members or for beneficiaries who are enrolled in Medicare Part B



# Uninformed Services Family Health Plan (USFHP)

## Costs:

- Active duty family members pay no enrollment fees and no out-of-pocket costs for any type of care as long as care is received from the US Family Health Plan provider
- All other beneficiaries pay annual enrollment fees (\$230/year for individuals or \$460/year for families)
- Cost for care is based on where the care is received
  - Retirees and their families not enrolled in Medicare Part B pay the same  
\$230 individual/\$460 family enrollment fees paid by TRICARE Prime retirees and their family members



# Uninformed Services Family Health Plan (USFHP)

Eligible beneficiaries can enrol in USFHP at one of the designated US Family Health Plan providers listed below.

**Pacific Medical Centers (PacMed Clinics)**  
Serving the Puget Sound area of Washington State  
1-888-958-7347



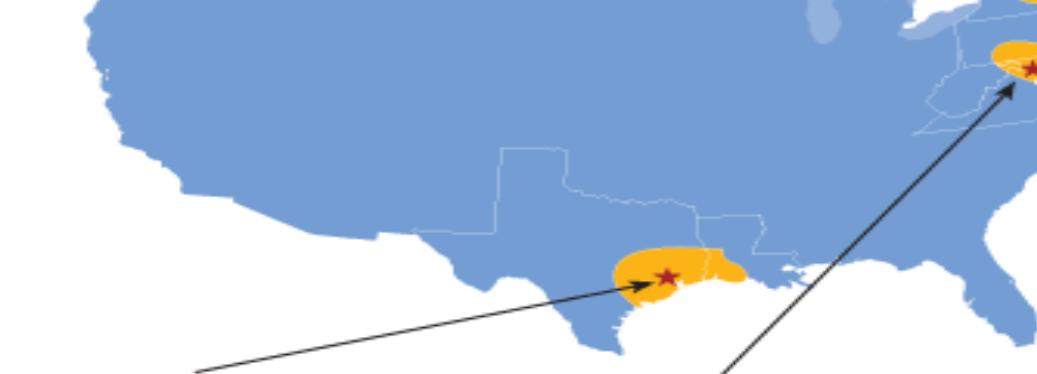
**Martin's Point Health Care**  
Serving Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire and northeastern New York  
1-888-241-4556



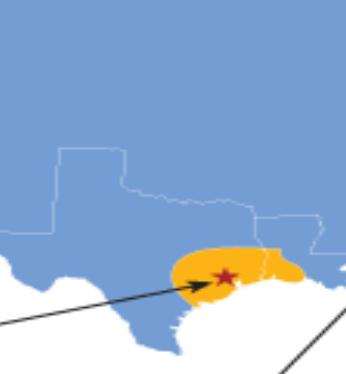
**Brighton Marine Health Center**  
Serving Massachusetts, including Cape Cod, Rhode Island and northern Connecticut  
1-800-818-8589



**CHRISTUS Health**  
Serving southeast Texas and southwest Louisiana  
1-800-678-7347



**Johns Hopkins Medicine**  
Serving central Maryland, Washington DC and parts of Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia  
1-800-808-7347



**Saint Vincent Catholic Medical Centers**  
Serving parts of New York, all of New Jersey, eastern Pennsylvania and southern Connecticut  
1-800-241-4848



Visit [www.usfhp.com](http://www.usfhp.com) for more information



# Summary

**Congratulations!**  
**You've Completed Lesson 8: Other Activities!**

**You should now be able to:**

- Describe some of the key features of TRICARE Plus
- Describe the ECHO benefit and who is eligible for it
- Describe the CAP Program
- Describe the US Family Health Plan